



Department of Energy
Germantown, MD 20874-1 290

February 1, 2001

His Excellency Banny de Brum
Ambassador of the Republic of
the Marshall Islands
Embassy of the Republic of
the Marshall Islands
2433 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W.
Washington. D.C. 20008

Dear Ambassador de Brum:

I am pleased to advise you that the Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Health Programs (EH-6) has completed the search and retrieval effort of DOE archival holdings for documents related to the U.S. nuclear testing program in the Marshall Islands, an effort we began in 1993 at the request of the Republic of the Marshall Islands Government. Since that time, more than 14,000 Marshall Islands-related documents (comprising over 1,000,000 pages) have been made publicly available. This substantial documentary archive has been provided to your Government in hardcopy and on CD-ROM, and is available on the Internet at the EH-6 website (www.eh.doe.gov/ihp/). In addition, in 1999, we awarded a 545,000 grant to the Marshall Islands Embassy in Washington, D.C., to train Embassy personnel in archival search techniques in order to facilitate their access to and use of DOE's electronic files of documents concerning U.S. nuclear testing in the Marshall Islands.

As part of our continuing commitment to provide periodic updates of the status of DOE's declassification review of documents embraced by your Government's request, I am happy to report that DOE's Office of Nuclear and National Security Information (SO-22) has recently made 19 Marshall Islands-related documents available for public release. We are in the process of forwarding these documents to Bechtel Nevada's Coordination and Information Center (CIC). The CIC will send you hardcopies of these documents, which will also be placed on the EH-6 website as part of the DOE Marshall Islands historical document collection.



-Approximately 580 Marshall Islands-related documents are currently undergoing declassification review by SO-22. This number is some 230 more than the approximately 350 documents I noted in my letter of October 8, 1999, to former Foreign Minister Phillip Muller. Please be assured that as SO-22 completes its declassification review and makes additional documents available to the public, we will continue to make copies available to your Government as expeditiously as possible.

Sincerely,



Paul J. Seligman, -M.D., M.P.H.
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Health Studies

cc: Foreign Minister Alvin Jackiick
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